



**For Immediate Release
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**ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP TO RESUME
AT WEBB MEMORIAL STATE PARK**

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) today announced the start of the second phase of the environmental cleanup project at Webb Memorial State Park in Weymouth. The park is undergoing a comprehensive cleanup of soils impacted by a former fertilizer factory that operated nearby for more than a century. Work is expected to begin in early June and continue into the fall.

The park will remain open to visitors during construction. Work will be limited to three small areas near the periphery of the park. These parcels have been off-limits to visitors since 2004 and will remain closed through project completion. The parking area near the park entrance will also remain open, although the number of parking spaces will be reduced at times during construction.

The environmental cleanup of the park and other nearby properties is part of the "Weymouth Neck Remediation Program" being implemented by ConocoPhillips. The program is the result of a voluntary agreement between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the company, which is the successor in interest to the enterprise that operated the former fertilizer plant. Although ConocoPhillips did not operate the plant, it is performing the comprehensive clean-up at no cost to Massachusetts taxpayers.

During Phase 2, soils in the park and at adjacent undeveloped properties impacted by fertilizer plant operations will be treated on site and/or removed. This process will isolate the impacted material from human contact and protect the environment. Areas impacted by construction will be re-vegetated and later opened to the public. The cleanup work will be completed this fall, with final landscaping and surface restoration scheduled for next spring. The project is being implemented in compliance with federal, state and local environmental regulations.

ConocoPhillips will temporarily re-route River Street near the park entrance in order to perform cleanup work under a portion of the roadway. The temporary street and an adjoining pedestrian walkway, both located parallel to the existing River Street, will remain open until the cleanup is completed this fall.

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Phase 1 of the park cleanup project, completed last August, resulted in a number of park improvements including: wetlands restoration; extensive soil cleanup; new trees, shrubs and grasses; walkways restoration; new park benches and picnic tables; and restroom upgrades.

“The start of Phase 2 is a major step forward in achieving our goal of a permanent environmental solution for the impacted areas of Webb State Park,” said Stephen H. Burrington, Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation. “The park is popular with nearby residents and visitors, and we’re pleased that it will remain open while this important work proceeds.”

The 36-acre waterfront park is part of the Boston Harbor Islands park system. The property, part of which was used by the U.S. military as a Nike Missile site, was acquired by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 1977.

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